



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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7 MAY 1965

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DAILY BRIEF
7 MAY 1965

LATE ITEM

(Information as of 5:00 p.m. EDT)

Dominican Republic

Loyalist forces this afternoon announced the formation of a "Council of National Reconstruction" which includes General Imbert and several prominent civilians. Our ambassador thinks the Council is a well-balanced group that can command nationwide support. The group plans to ask for early recognition.

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there has been little sign that the rebel cause is attracting much support outside the rebel enclave in Santo Domingo. The outlying areas remain quiet for the most part.

Rebels taken in action by US forces have turned out to be largely trained professional insurgents. Captured officers recount how the Communists took control of the revolt through street mobs.

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Colonel Caamano yesterday sent a circular message to most American governments protesting the creation of the inter-American force as a "cover" for US military intervention.

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1. Vietnam

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Last night, a Viet Cong battalion attacked the force of Chinese refugee Catholic priest Father Hoa in An Xuyen Province 180 miles southwest of Saigon. Father Hoa's refugees have been holding out for a long time in this area, which is generally dominated by the Communists. Viet Cong terrorist and military activity in general has been increasing in scale and intensity during the past several days.

Speaking in East Berlin today, Soviet Premier Kosygin warned President Johnson "not to forget that the Vietnamese people have friends who will not fail them." In Prague yesterday, Presidium member Shelepin also pledged strong support for Hanoi. In Moscow, the Soviets continue to warn Western diplomats of the dangers of escalation of the conflict

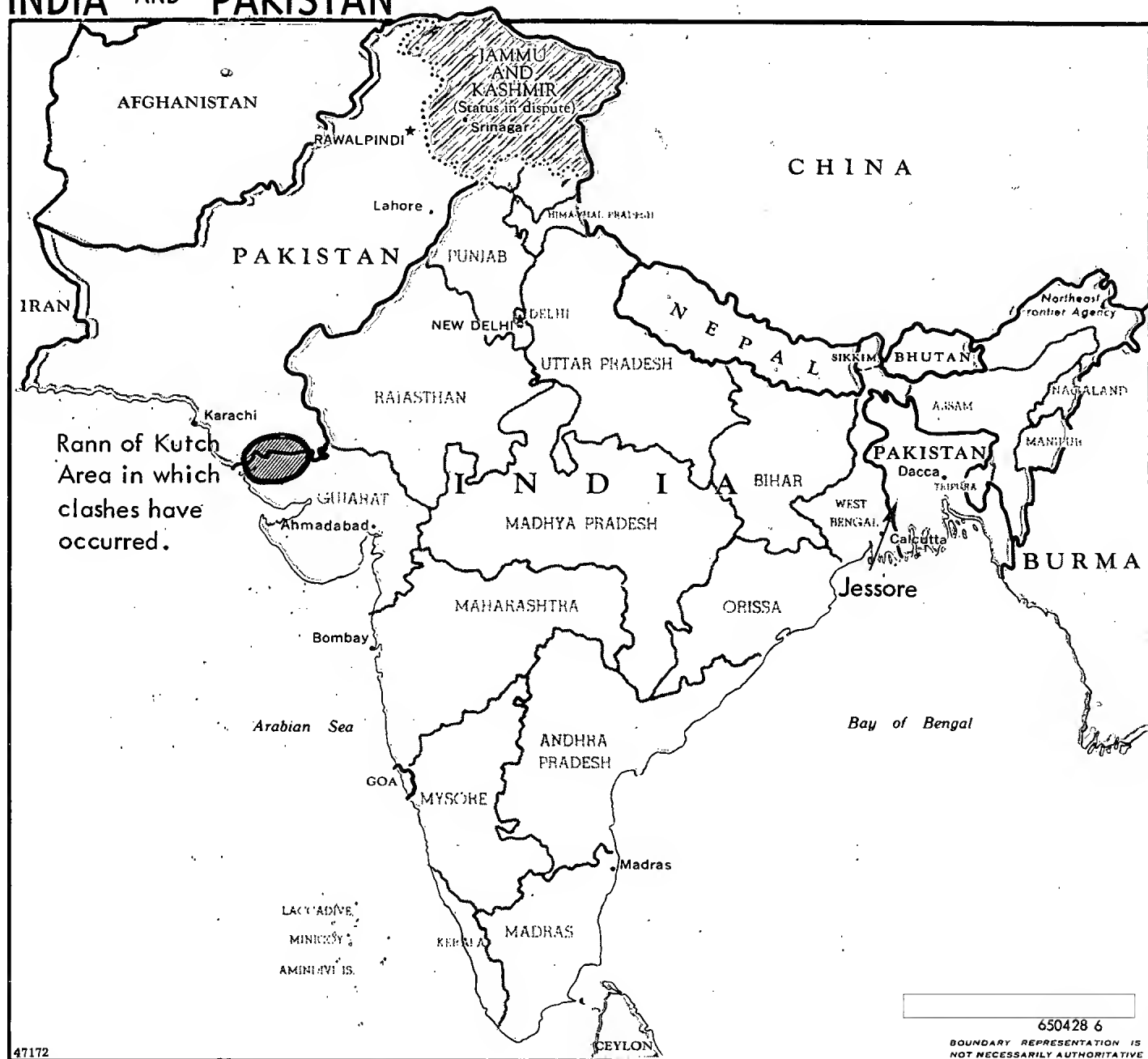
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The Chinese Communists are cranking up another shrill propaganda attack on the Soviets, this time alleging that a North Vietnamese student demonstration in Leningrad last month was brutally suppressed. The interesting possibility exists that no such incident occurred, or at least that the Chinese are grossly exaggerating. It looks as if Peiping by this means is trying to stir up trouble between Hanoi and Moscow, as well as within the North Vietnamese party.

2. Laos

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INDIA AND PAKISTAN



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3. India-Pakistan

The situation has possibly moved a little closer to ignition in the past twenty-four hours.



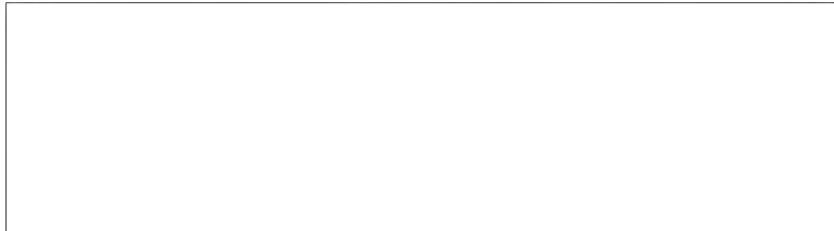
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Diplomatic efforts are continuing, however, to formalize the cease-fire in Kutch. Pakistan is informing the Security Council that a serious threat to the peace has arisen, but apparently will not for the moment ask for a special meeting. India has responded to Prime Minister Wilson's latest proposals with counterproposals of its own.

4. Colombia

President Valencia narrowly escaped political disaster this week at the hands of the Liberal Party which came close to deciding to break up the coalition cabinet. Although this particular episode seems to be over, it brought a sharp build-up of tension in political circles in Bogota, and the situation remains basically unstable. Essentially, the problem is that the oligarchy will not accept badly needed reform measures. The dissatisfaction this is causing among civilian and military leaders alike is shaking the National Front arrangement adopted to prevent civil war in 1958.

5. South Korea



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6. France

De Gaulle has issued orders that no French support will be given to the proposed construction of a new NATO headquarters building in Paris, according to a senior French Foreign Office official. The Belgian ambassador to the North Atlantic Council says he thinks the French will pull out all the stops in their attack on NATO before the French presidential election in December, and particularly after the German elections on September 19.

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